

Top-ranked Questions, HHFT Joint Public Session

Rank score	Ques. #	# of votes	Topic	Question	Proposed by	Residence
123	7	32	Environmental impact and climate change	MNR has requested a 25' buffer between tracks and trail, meaning EVERY TREE along the river will be removed to accommodate a 14' wide boardwalk shading the shoreline and preventing regrowth. How does this protect against flooding?	Grace Kennedy	Garrison
99	69	27	Accountability and transparency	Will the Fjord Trail be built even if a majority of people in the community are against it?	Alice Krakauer	Philipstown
95	21	33	Trail design and scale of project	What viable alternatives to the proposed Fjord Trail have been proposed and evaluated, including alternative alignments and no build/no action options? Why are earlier iterations, much smaller in scope, impact, scale & cost to the taxpayer, no longer under consideration? What is the current status of any of these?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
94	47	34	Accountability and transparency	I liked this plan when it was a wooded trail. It transformed into a concrete extravaganza that will scar the landscape forever due to the influence of a private donor, Chris Davis. Even Parks deferred to him. Who elected him? How is he accountable?	Phil Weiss	North Highlands
87	208	32	Increase in visitors	How can HHFT and NYS OPRHP claim they are solving the Village of Cold Spring's tourist problems when they are creating a major tourist attraction that will bring thousands more visitors to the Village of Cold Spring?	Dave Merandy	Village of Cold Spring
81	178	29	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	HHFT predicts an increase of hundreds of thousands of visitors annually, with upwards of 66% arriving by vehicle. All vehicles arriving from the South and East must pass through the traffic light at Routes 9D/301. Will DGEIS address this increased traffic? How will negative impacts be mitigated? NYCRR Part 617.9(a)(b)?	David May	Cold Spring
81	204	28	Increase in visitors	What is the projected increase in visitation to Hudson Highlands State Park? The Breackneck trailhead? The Village of Cold Spring? And what methodology was used to arrive at these projections? Specifically what time of year was traffic data gathered? What other projects, parks and attractions were used as comparables?	Michael Bowman	Village of Nelsonville

81	55	27	Accountability and transparency	It's understood there is a fine line in this so-called Public/Private Partnership between NYS and Scenic Hudson/HHFT. If this is truly a public project, exempt from local planning board oversight then agenda and minutes from meetings under this partnership would be required under Open Meetings law. If this is truly a private project then local board oversight is required by law and minutes can be hidden/withheld from the public. In this case, which is it? Ethically you shouldn't claim both. Wouldn't you agree?	Stephanie Hawkins	Cold Spring
69	107	25	Data, studies, reporting and project process	The Fjord Trail will have a big impact, but we have no data on what this impact (social, environmental, economic) will look like. Where are the studies that typically accompany projects of this large scale? Can we expect to see such analyses so we can have a fact-based debate?	David Duffy	Philipstown
61	10	21	Environmental impact and climate change	If the environmental review reveals that there will be significant impacts to species such as New England cottontail, cerulean warblers and submerged vegetation will the project be canceled?	Lauren Martin	North Highlands
45	12	14	Environmental impact and climate change	I watched the waterfront development at Beacon station for 7 years, from the start. We know that much of the river shoreline has been disturbed for over a hundred years. The restoration brought back wildlife and habitat including pollinators and native plants. What kind of plans are there to restore the natural habitat that existed pre industrial revolution and how will the restoration help mitigate the rising water levels caused by climate change?	Adam Osterfeld	North Highlands
39	35	14	Trail design and scale of project	Given the concerns about 600,000 visitors using the Fjord Trail and potentially swamping the tiny Cold Spring Village on weekends, is it possible to have the Dutchess Manor site be promoted from the outset as the focal point/centerpiece for HHFT visitors...particularly those coming by car? This central point would have trail info, food, tons of parking, and be the designated starting point for trail access. All trail guide brochures, advertising, and other marketing information would direct visitors to this central point, noting that other trail access points may be available. Surely some will still come by train to the Cold Spring, Beacon, and Breakneck stations, and others drive and park at other areas along the trail, but having the focus on this mid-trail site should cause less stress on CS Village resources and residents.	Cathy Carnevale	Village of Cold Spring

38	3	10	Environmental impact and climate change	Seven significant ecological communities, identified by the New York Natural Heritage Program, as well as Endangered and Threatened Species exist in the trail corridor. A far more modest Fjord Trail proposal was given a Positive Declaration in 2015. What has changed to make these habitats and species less vulnerable now?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
33	161	12	Services and infrastructure	How will HHFT support the Village of Cold Spring to handle the increased strain in its infrastructure that the Fjord trail will bring? This is not a bathroom question -- the Village as it is can barely keep up with sidewalk repairs, garbage pickup, maintenance of the water treatment plant, etc.	Teresa Lagerman	Village of Cold Spring
32	36	10	Trail design and scale of project	A trail between Cold Spring and Beacon is a great idea. But the "add-ons" will totally change the character of the area the Fjord Trail claims to celebrate. Why must we accept the "add-ons" along with the trail?	Ned Rauch	Garrison
31	37	9	Trail design and scale of project	The current dramatic expansion of the project appears to increase the parking and over tourism problems it was supposed to address. How can this project be returned to the original project the community supported and protect the quality of life of our small town?	Irene Karlen	Garrison
29	175	11	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	As a resident of Fair Street in Cold Spring, I want to know why a sidewalk has been taken off the table as an alternate way to get people to the HHFT? It is probably the most walked on street without a sidewalk in the county and would greatly prevent congestion at Dockside park which is a much trickier access point and would not require putting chain link fences along the railroad tracks obscuring the world-famous view of the river and Storm King along Fair Street.	Kelley Linhardt	Philipstown
28	27	8	Trail design and scale of project	Can the plan be scaled down to include only the trail and the train/car parking to access the trail? The trail is a great idea. Access for all abilities is important. We don't need all the other stuff.	michael rauch	Garrison
27	48	8	Accountability and transparency	Assuming transparency is important to Scenic Hudson/ HHFT, where are the partnership agreements between/among public agencies, Scenic Hudson/HHFT documenting the objectives, financial commitments, governance rules, names, titles, and contact information of roles accountable, obligations and responsibilities of each party involved in the Fjord Trail Development? When will they be published to a central location for public access?	Stephanie Hawkins	Cold Spring

26	44	7	Trail design and scale of project	What will the trail—in its entirety—look like? How many trees will be removed? How high will fencing be throughout? How will the trail be built along the river bank. Why haven't we seen final plans?	Ned Rauch	Garrison
25	135	11	Funding and economic impact	What is the total projected annual cost of maintaining the linear park? That would include cleaning and other general maintenance as well as repair and/or replacement of items or materials which are damaged, destroyed, or just plain worn out. What entity will be responsible for that maintenance and where will the money come from? How many workers will be required for maintenance and how many of those will be full time and how many seasonal?	Delmar Karlen	Garrison
24	77	7	Accountability and transparency	Every successful private-public partnership has a detailed agreement between the parties on construction and management costs, and expected revenue sources. We have seen nothing except a short agreement from December 2021 about a construction manager and \$5 million for the Breakneck Connector even as taxpayers money is being spent on a segmented project. Has the NYS Parks OR any other State agency or department drafted a preliminary agreement between HHFT and NYS Parks for the entire trail? If not, why not? If so, what does it say?	Gretchen Dykstra	Village of Cold Spring
22	169	7	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	Many people will be attracted to walk the boardwalk from Cold Spring Village. Given studies already done it appears that large numbers will arrive by car. How will Parks/HHFT people help deal with the traffic that will be created, given there is only one bridge over the tracks, and parking spaces are rare on weekdays. Additionally, what MNR spaces that are available on weekends will not be nearly enough. Is this massive problem going to be left to VCS to deal with? Shuttles will not address this problem.	Judith K. Rose	Village of Cold Spring
20	25	6	Trail design and scale of project	Will the entire fjord trail and new restrooms be ADA compliant?	Aaron Leonard	Village of Cold Spring
19	2	5	Environmental impact and climate change	Building the proposed structure from Dockside Park to Breakneck Ridge, on the narrow area between the train tracks and the river, will necessitate cutting trees and disturbing the river shore. How can you justify this elimination of nesting areas, erosion of riverbank support (tree roots), and stripping of natural resources?	Hope Scott Rogers	Philipstown
19	17	4	Environmental impact and climate change	how have climate change considerations and the environmental impact on the landscape been incorporated into the design?	kaelin martin	Garrison

17	194	5	Increase in visitors	How will HHFT determine if the village is being overburdened with visitors due to the trail? What conditions will trigger an active response?	Seamus Carroll	Village of Nelsonville
16	186	7	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	People will continue to come to our beautiful town. This can not be stopped, so we must have a plan to deal with this influx of people (who are not our enemies.) My question is: Where will the parking lots be located and, of course, where will the trail start?	Trisha Mulliogan	Garrison
16	140	6	Funding and economic impact	How is this project being funded and who will who will maintain the new restrooms, pick up the garbage, and take care of the trail?	Christine Ashburn	Village of Cold Spring
16	95	5	Data, studies, reporting and project process	How can this project have gotten this far without a traffic study that includes Main Street and 9D on weekends on peak visitor days?	Sheila P Rauch	Cold Spring
16	195	5	Increase in visitors	I'm deeply concerned about the negative impact a 12-14 foot wide elevated boardwalk from Dockside to Breakneck Ridge, promoted as a regional attraction, would have on the village. We're already overwhelmed by the volume of visitors on weekends and our streets are often impassable. Why should we welcome this project?	Peter Henderson	Village of Cold Spring
16	201	5	Increase in visitors	What is the expected visitation to the Fjord attraction on peak weekends (not the annual average), where does HHFT predict these people will arrive (i.e. how many in Beacon vs. Cold Spring, how many by car vs. train), what kind of food/beverage/restroom/garbage/emergency services will they require, and how will these services be provided and paid for? Also, what research and calculations are these projections based on, who came up with them, and why have they not yet been widely and transparently disseminated?	Eric Tipler	Cold Spring
16	207	5	Increase in visitors	If the project is built as planned, Cold Spring is poised to be a primary gateway for thousands of new visitors on peak weekends, which will permanently alter the character and economy of the village. What provisions are being made to address this, and what rights do residents have in determining the future of their town?	Eric Tipler	Cold Spring
15	16	4	Environmental impact and climate change	Given the climate emergency that we are all facing, what plans are in place with regards to expected sea level rise, and shoreline resiliency?	Davis McCallum	East Mountain Road South

15	102	4	Data, studies, reporting and project process	HHFT has presented their 2020 "Master Plan" as an official Master Plan, yet it is not referenced in the SEQR documentation, so is fantasy. The 2020 plan bears so little resemblance to the plan referenced in the SEQR documents that it should require restarting SEQR. How does NYS Parks respond?	Peter Henderson	Village of Cold Spring
15	156	4	Services and infrastructure	Who will be responsible for the trash pick-up, pay for helicopters to rescue hikers, and other costs associated with 600,000 tourists a year?	Cynthia Kling	Cold Spring
14	26	5	Trail design and scale of project	What accessibility considerations are being incorporated into the Fjord Trail's design?	Marina Martin	Garrison
14	79	5	Accountability and transparency	Christopher Davis and his family's charitable foundation have donated tens of millions of dollars to this project and to Scenic Hudson and substantial amounts to all the local environmental groups, including approx. 30% of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust's budget and \$100k per year to the Riverkeeper, from 2018-202. Why should the residents feel confident that these donations have not biased the environmental reviews of this project?	Dave Merandy	Village of Cold Spring
14	63	3	Accountability and transparency	If the HHFT eventually takes over the management of Dockside, as it says it will, will it sign a legally binding agreement that says it will seek approval from the Village on any significant commercial proposal presented to NYS Parks?	Gretchen Dykstra	Village of Cold Spring
13	197	6	Increase in visitors	One of the main reasons for my moving to Philipstown was access to the Hudson and local trails. My access to all this is limited now by overcrowding. Many aspects of my enjoyment are ruined by overuse and disrespect for the rules. I fear that my now limited access will be further restricted, and my enjoyment lost altogether. What, if any, accommodations have been made for residents? I ask that residents, at the very least, be considered for special parking and access that might partially compensate for all the losses already suffered.	mj philips	North Highlands
13	60	4	Accountability and transparency	Why was HHFT invited to answer our questions? NYS Parks is the project applicant and the lead agency. HHFT is not listed in the SEQR documentation, except for the Breakneck Connector portion. Scenic Hudson is listed only as "Project Manager," which is not an official role in the SEQR legislation.	Peter Henderson	Village of Cold Spring
13	155	4	Services and infrastructure	What is your plan to rescue lost, sick, or injured hikers?	David Limburg	Village of Nelsonville

12	146	5	Funding and economic impact	What is the basis for the assertion that creation of this linear park will be of economic benefit to Cold Spring, Nelsonville, and Philipstown? i.e., what, if any, evidence is there behind that claim? Neither the 2020 Draft Master Plan nor the Environmental Scoping document is at all specific on that point even though they have brief and vague paragraphs devoted to it.	Delmar Karlen	Garrison
12	24	3	Trail design and scale of project	Why is the state planning to build a major attraction in a tightly bounded riverside area with very few access points and natural chokepoints (mountains, river) that limit ingress and egress?	Eric Tipler	Cold Spring
12	49	3	Accountability and transparency	MJ Martin has said numerous times in public meetings that the “Steering Committee” has led the direction of the project and has met for almost a decade at this point. Elected officials and other stakeholders (I.e. the NYS Parks Police, former and current officials of the Villages of Nelsonville and Cold Spring) have said this is not true. Please provide us with the specific times that this steering committee has met, and the evolution of their decision making? Or has this just been a project designed and led by the HHFT leadership?	Michael Bowman	Village of Nelsonville
12	52	3	Accountability and transparency	Have any member(s) of the Town of Philipstown Board (current or past) while in its employment openly commented or affirm their support or positive guidance for any part of the HHFT, and if so was it before The villages of Cold Spring or Nelsonville's receipt of a formal independent and accepted Transportation & Traffic study for the villages..	Gordon Reid - Robertson	Cold Spring
12	117	3	Data, studies, reporting and project process	Has the Village of Cold Spring or its Board contemplated hiring a "Forensic Economist "to evaluate the economic fallout / impact (on behalf of the villages) regarding the above privately sponsored Boardwalk included in the proposed HHFT plan. This evaluation would not just encompass the obvious Macro-Economic devastation to our community (i.e. Infrastructure, Traffic, loss of community). But would include a Micro- Economic analysis that could in the long run present far greater detriment and on a perpetual basis to our village(s), residents and property owners. This would include non-obvious and perpetual detriments such as (decades of Pensions for additional employees/ hires). Insurance, too, would be affected due to the increased projected statistical loss probability. This would be predicated on the significant increase in the village(s) daytime population when compared with a current official population of 2000 official residents.	Gordon Reid - Robertson	Cold Spring

11	1	3	Environmental impact and climate change	How much will carbon emissions increase when there are 600,000 visitors to the linear park? Please quantify. How much (in terms of volume or weight) additional trash will be generated by the 600,000 visitors? Again, quantify.	Delmar Karlen	Garrison
10	157	5	Services and infrastructure	Once the Fjord Trail is completed, who will maintain the trail and associated facilities (e.g, bathrooms) and who will pay for that?	David Limburg	Village of Nelsonville
10	118	4	Other community issues	Since the Fjord Trail is committed to addressing safety issues around Breakneck Ridge and traffic issues in the Village of Cold Spring and beyond, how can the Village and Town constructively and amicably collaborate with the Fjord Trail and State Parks to maximize the benefits of the project to the community?	Richard Krupp	Village of Cold Spring
10	196	4	Increase in visitors	The Fjord Trail claims to address problems of overcrowding on and around Breakneck. It expects a significant increase in annual visitation. How can it solve an overcrowding problem by adding crowds?	Ned Rauch	Garrison
10	205	4	Increase in visitors	If too many people come to use the Fjord Trail, or overburden the village, how will HHFT reduce and control the number of visitors?	Seamus Carroll	Village of Nelsonville
10	6	2	Environmental impact and climate change	How has the trail design considered environmental impact, climate change, and sustainability in its design? Will sustainable/climate-conscious materials and practices be used during construction?	Adele Westerhuis	Garrison
10	133	2	Funding and economic impact	The HHFT staff continues to say that it will raise money for the long term maintenance of the trail, but all professional fundraisers know it is difficult, if not impossible, to raise money when there is no expense budget. If HHFT is currently a "subsidiary" of Scenic Hudson, with its president on the "Board" and back office functions fulfilled why hasn't Scenic Hudson produced an estimated maintenance and repair budget?	Gretchen Dykstra	Village of Cold Spring
9	189	5	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	Are there any plans to work with NYSDOT to install a complete sidewalk connection from the village traffic light to Little Stony Point along Route 9D?	Richard Shea	Village of Cold Spring
9	23	3	Trail design and scale of project	The goal of the modest original plan, which the community supported, was to address safety, parking and overtourism. They suggested such measures as ticketing improperly parked cars and limiting tourism. Why can't that be implemented right now?	Irene Karlen	Garrison

9	134	3	Funding and economic impact	This town has so many pressing issues that could benefit from the kind of resources being spent on this single, controversial project. Would the town and villages demand concessions from the Fjord Trail's chief backer, whose wealth has floated the project to this point? If just a small percentage of what's being spent on the Fjord Trail were spent on the town's Rec. Department, for example, the department might actually be able to expand its services to accommodate all of the community's children.	Ned Rauch	Garrison
9	141	3	Funding and economic impact	With the expected increase in tourism after the completion of the Fjord Trail, will there be a tax impact on local residents? For example, will our taxes go up in order to pay for maintenance, police coverage, rescues, etc?	David Limburg	Village of Nelsonville
9	150	3	Services and infrastructure	Supporters of the project have been quoted as saying that this project will generate revenue to support critical infrastructure. In regard to the Village of Cold Spring, beyond the bathrooms, what infrastructure is being referred to and why is this comment continually being quoted if it is untrue?	Judith K. Rose	Village of Cold Spring
9	40	2	Trail design and scale of project	Several members of various boards have said the Fjord Trail is a done deal because the tourists/hikers are already here - and that there's no point in re-thinking it. Do you agree? Would you be willing to pause its development and go as far as redesigning certain aspects of it so that the villages of CS and N do not bear the brunt of the crush of tourism it will bring?	Kelly House	Village of Nelsonville
9	46	2	Accountability and transparency	When will HHFT start being kinder and show more respect to the citizens of Cold Spring and Nelsonville? Supporters/staff are clearly pushing terminology such as "hysteria" when referring to issues that have arisen. In addition, they condone their supporters in using veiled racist terminology such as "people from other places", "from the city" or "others" against opposition as a way of diverting concerns. When will the HHFT just start respecting that the people opposed to their project are asking for real answers to real issues and are not racists?	Judith K. Rose	Village of Cold Spring
8	119	4	Other community issues	The HHFT project was segmented following the 2015 Positive Declaration. Why and how did this occur? Is it assumed that other parts of the trail can and will be segmented as well? Does this segmentation serve the planners in circumventing doing the right thing for the environment?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring

8	59	3	Accountability and transparency	The Fjord Trail's finances are murky, and the relationship between HHFT, Scenic Hudson, and the state Parks Dept. is ill-defined. What is stopping the Fjord Trail from being more forthcoming about its finances?	Ned Rauch	Garrison
8	20	2	Environmental impact and climate change	Has the design of the water's edge portion of the trail taken into account the inevitability of sea-level rise? How will you mitigate the effects of that without repeatedly rebuilding it at tax-payer's expense?	Kelly House	Village of Nelsonville
8	51	2	Accountability and transparency	The berm at Dockside Park: who authorized this, at what cost and where was it stipulated in the Scope of Work? This type of so far unexplained activity goes to the heart of the issues of transparency, accountability and trust about the handling of this proposed project.	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
8	111	2	Data, studies, reporting and project process	The information baked into the 2017 Scoping document and 2020 Master Plan is woefully out of date. What measures has HHFT-NYSOPHRP taken to ensure the DGEIS comports with 2023 reality, and beyond, with respect to each and all of the Potential Project Impacts and thresholds outlined in the FEAF?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
8	127	2	Other community issues	If the Fjord Trail is built along the train tracks from Dockside to Little Stony Point, will Metro North build a chain link fence separating the trail from the tracks like it did at Breakneck? If so this would cut Cold Spring off from the river and spoil some of the most dramatic views in the Hudson Valley.	Dan Brochu	Philipstown
7	58	3	Accountability and transparency	There's a significant amount of concern whether this project is a "public" or "private" development. It appears at various times to move back and forth depending on the outcome desired. For example: NYS Parks is the Lead Agency on Phase 1 (Breakneck Connector & bridge). Was that awarded contract publicly bid and will you release the relevant documents to a central web site so the taxpayers can be assured it's money is being spent wisely and legally?	Joe Curto	Village of Cold Spring
7	64	3	Accountability and transparency	Has New York State Parks and /or their agents offered or indicated that with significant donations from outside sources or contributions that they may or could be granted naming rights to the project or any part of this segmented HHFT project. Further, would this allow the applicant or NYS Parks or their agents, the ability to offer or provide concessions throughout any part of this the proposed project.	Gordon Reid - Robertson	Cold Spring

7	70	3	Accountability and transparency	Where do each our elected local officials - Philipstown, Cold Spring, Nelsonville Boards - all members & Nancy Montgomery stand on the HHFT; what are their reservations and what would they amend if given the opportunity?	Kelly House	Village of Nelsonville
7	80	3	Accountability and transparency	How can you include Cold Spring citizens, who have an excellent feel for our village, its character, terrain, and downtown, in the deliberative process of connecting our town to the Fjord Trail?	Dar Williams	Village of Cold Spring
7	87	3	Accountability and transparency	What is the role and the determinative powers of Garrison resident Chris Davis in this entire project? How much money has his foundation, family, or himself privately contributed , overall, to the fjord trail establishment, personnel, budget, etc.?	Pete Samalsohn	Garrison
7	43	2	Trail design and scale of project	How do you plan to separate walkers from runners, cyclists and other users on the elevated section of the trail? Will there be marked lanes for each and how will you accommodate them all on a 14-foot-wide path? By what standards could any solutions be considered safe?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
7	179	2	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	The Parking/Shuttle webinar and followup report seems to make some important assumptions which would be the basis of how the Fjord's Visitation Mngt System will be effective. For example: 77% of visitors are arriving by car, mostly from the south, with 2% by VCS Metro North. If this is so, why would you even bother with the dockside and Little Stony Point components other than to substantiate the term " world class linear park with attractions" . Is this one person's vision which in turn will be the Village residents nightmare?	Joe Curto	Village of Cold Spring
6	42	3	Trail design and scale of project	Can Parks consider and manage (with the new bathrooms discussed at Little Stony Point) to take the trail from the road crossing there to the Cornish Trail on towards Breakneck with the other improvements?	John Zuvic	Cold Spring
6	8	2	Environmental impact and climate change	How can any structure, built strongly enough to withstand superstorms (Sandy and Irene), ice flows, and to accommodate thousands of people, NOT seriously devastate the ground and habitat it's built on? What will remain after the structure is damaged to permanently trash our shoreline? What is budgeted for clean up?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring

6	11	2	Environmental impact and climate change	The “interface” between the Metro North Station and Dockside Park, particularly the public walkway; what plans do Metro North, Village of CS and NYS Parks have for dealing with climate change, and crowd control on that stretch? Who is going to pay for climate control infrastructure on the segment controlled by the Village?	Rudolph Rauch	Lane Gate Rd.
6	29	2	Trail design and scale of project	Is Little Stoney Point being considered as the primary entrance to the trail, instead of Dockside?	Karen Shea	Village of Cold Spring
6	45	2	Accountability and transparency	How can the public provide real input on the Fjord Trail?	Kathleen McLane	Cold Spring
6	75	2	Accountability and transparency	This project has changed & grown dramatically since his expanded involvement financially even to the point where NY State Parks has allowed him carte blanche. It would be right thing to do for Mr Davis to share his vision firsthand & explain to us residents why we shouldn’t be highly concerned of that vision.	Joe Curto	Village of Cold Spring
6	101	2	Data, studies, reporting and project process	HHFT has cited visitation estimates ranging from 600,000 (July 22nd, 2022) to 743,626 in 2021 to 1,003,908 in 2028 (both 2nd February, 2023). What data points or studies were used to derive these numbers, why are they so inconsistent and how much new parking will be required to accommodate them?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
6	125	2	Other community issues	Why is it called a fjord trail when the State’s own signage at Little Stony Point refers to it as a ‘tidal estuary’?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
6	130	2	Other community issues	Why was the 2015 Master Plan that envisaged a simple \$600,000 Bike-Ped bridge at Breakneck and a \$3.7M pedestrian bridge and multi-use trail given a positive declaration, whilst the Breakneck 2022 FEAF featuring a much larger, more expensive (including for taxpayers) and more impactful structure was given the go-ahead?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
6	158	2	Services and infrastructure	How many bathrooms will be built and whois going to maintain them?	Fred Martin	Garrison
6	171	2	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	I was one of the locals who took videos of traffic on 9D. We wanted a simple trail to get hikers safely off the road. Yet HHFT admits this boardwalk is designed to attract more visitors-other than hikers. So how is this a solution to hikers on the road?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
6	193	2	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	If the trail begins at Dockside, visitors will drive there. Where are they supposed to park?	Teresa Lagerman	Village of Cold Spring

5	210	3	Increase in visitors	Cold Spring is a uniquely-preserved 19th century village. It's a place of sovereignty. This Fjord Trail is being marketed to solve our traffic problems. Explain to us in detail how this does anything but turn our village into a giant concierge to service your new Disneyesque development.	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
5	5	2	Environmental impact and climate change	As related to the proposed southern gateway to the linear park, Dockside Park, which is basically at sea level, how does HHFT plan on mitigating the sea level rise due to climate change?	Dave Merandy	Village of Cold Spring
5	28	2	Trail design and scale of project	Why has the Fjord "Trail" pictured on a poster at the Cold Spring station morphed into a 12-foot-wide raised boardwalk surrounded by a chain link fence? Why not a natural trail?	Hope Scott ROgers	Philipstown
5	66	2	Accountability and transparency	There's a significant amount of concern whether this project is a "public" or "private" development. It appears at various times to move back and forth depending on the outcome desired. For example: There's a single individual who thru various related entities has contributed a significant amount of funds towards this project. It may be a coincidence but once this started the project scope became more of a "world class linear park with attractions" than a trail safety project. Would NYS Parks care to comment on that publicly?	Joe Curto	Village of Cold Spring
5	162	2	Services and infrastructure	What are the plans to create programming for our local community?	Anne Symmes	Garrison
5	4	1	Environmental impact and climate change	How does the design of the riverside walkway from Dockside Park to LSP help protect the shoreline from current periodic flooding events as well as predicted sea level rise?	Lynn Miller	Village of Cold Spring
5	14	1	Environmental impact and climate change	The disastrous planting at Dockside has been excused by HHFT as December flooding and summer drought. Has the whole trail been planned without taking those 2 common phenomena into consideration?	Sheila P Rauch	Cold Spring
5	30	1	Trail design and scale of project	Why are there no artist renderings of the elevated boardwalk showing the supports, height of the boardwalk, height of the fencing/rails or its proximity to the river and Metro North tracks?	Dave Merandy	Village of Cold Spring
5	113	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	Independent of other park trails, what is the maximum daily capacity of the Fjord Trail while still providing a positive user experience?	Seamus Carroll	Village of Nelsonville
5	129	1	Other community issues	Does neither the donor nor the NYS Parks care about desecrating a historic and beloved view, made famous by some of the most respected American painters in the world?	Gretchen Dykstra	Village of Cold Spring

5	131	1	Other community issues	The viewshed of Cornwall will be drastically altered by this project, To what extent has Cornwall been engaged and included in the development process of this project?	Dave Merandy	Village of Cold Spring
5	147	1	Funding and economic impact	What is the expected lifetime of the Fjord Trail and what will happen to it then? How does HHFT plan to cover its operational costs during that time and what initial 5- or 10-year projections has it made for those costs?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
5	154	1	Services and infrastructure	What investments will be made by HHFT, Inc. to keep visitors off of local streets and out of high-impact neighborhoods?	Pepper Evans	Village of Cold Spring
5	185	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	If the parking lots and spaces overflow and there continues to be parking along 9D or on private property, will the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and Scenic Hudson support vigorous enforcement, that is, ticketing and towing of offending vehicles?	Delmar Karlen	Garrison
4	50	2	Accountability and transparency	We live in a nationally recognized historic district and go before the Historic District Review Board for changes to our residences when visible from the street. The HHFT will radically change the character of our town and be visible to all. When will it go before our village boards?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
4	93	2	Data, studies, reporting and project process	Has an independent economic impact study been conducted for the Fjord Trail, and if so, what were its findings and where are they publicly available? Did it include the Village of Cold Spring, and if so, where is that information available? If not, why not?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
4	112	2	Data, studies, reporting and project process	Where traffic studies done on Morris Avenue, Chestnut Street and Main Street and if so, who performed those studies and what were the days of the week, dates and hours of those studies?	Dave Merandy	Village of Cold Spring
4	167	2	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	Residents see the convergence of traffic by train, boat, car, bus, on foot, by bike, by motorcycles all vying to access a single Main Street. We can't handle the traffic as it is. How is the Fjord Trail, by adding more traffic, going to solve these existing traffic problems?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
4	22	1	Trail design and scale of project	Throughout NYS trails have been closed for various reasons. If we close the now new one way ascent up Breakneck all together we don't even need another bridge over the tracks there. Reach the summit from the north and south by other trails. Why can't we eliminate another infrastructure cost?	John Zuvic	Cold Spring

4	97	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	In 2022, Amy Kacala said a more recent traffic count was needed for the DGEIS. However, the DGEIS is slated to come out in October of this year. Leaf season, Cold Spring's busiest, runs through November. How will the DGEIS accurately depict/predict traffic without data from leaf season?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
4	126	1	Other community issues	If you build it they will come, isn't just a dream in a movie. We've seen it here with the recently-built parking lot opposite Little Stony Point. A few years later and it's already inadequate. When does one stop and protect and preserve rather than exploit? What are the criteria?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
4	136	1	Funding and economic impact	The State has already begun to spend taxpayer money on all three sections of the trail. Is there a formal pledge from the donor? If not, why not? If so, how much and for what?	Gretchen Dykstra	Village of Cold Spring
4	148	1	Funding and economic impact	What are the projected costs for long term maintenance of the Fjord Trail? What items and services are included in these projections?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
4	174	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	Before making big structural changes I would like to know what you are doing about currently existing problems: Speed limit on Rt. 9 D should be lowered to at least 40. Who can do this? DOT?	Constancia Dinky Romilly	Cold Spring
4	209	1	Increase in visitors	What benefits does VCS expect to derive from the Trail originating at Dockside (and Stony Point/Washburn Trailhead) if they cannot handle the volume of tourism it currently experiences?	Kelly House	Village of Nelsonville
3	33	2	Trail design and scale of project	If the proposed boardwalk /cantilevered trail is built above the predicted rise of the river what happens when the river floods the RR tracks? How will the tracks be fixed in a timely fashion as work is obstructed by the cantilevered path? Please make all correspondence with MNR available on this matter.	Gretchen Dykstra	Village of Cold Spring
3	103	2	Data, studies, reporting and project process	I have not seen any analysis of the current northbound traffic on 9D leading to the Main St traffic light during peak tourist weekends. The back up is often to Drug World for the day. We understand the the growth of Beacon which has been designed to minimize cars. But with no Data from fjord we can only assume an order of magnitude increase of traffic leading back over the bridge and into the side streets. If you did this analysis, what are the results? Was it an Independent firm involving the village? If not, why not? Concerned about the results? Or it wasn't required so why bother?	Richard franco	Village of Cold Spring
3	108	2	Data, studies, reporting and project process	What traffic studies and or counts have been conducted, by who, on what days and dates, in what locations and what were the weather conditions at the time? Why are they not publicly available?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring

3	163	2	Services and infrastructure	How will HHFT support local emergency services to handle the demand that the Fjord trail will bring?	Teresa Lagerman	Village of Cold Spring
3	19	1	Environmental impact and climate change	How will NYSOPRHP weigh the public interest in protecting 'the significant natural and scenic resources' and 'seven significant ecological communities' that it cites in it's 10/7/15 positive declaration against ensuring 'this project becomes the epicenter for outdoor recreation in Hudson Highlands State Park (Ned Sullivan letter to Commissioner Harvey, 7/19/13)?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
3	86	1	Accountability and transparency	2016-era plans for the Fjord Trail generated a lot of concern, including from Riverkeeper; Assuming transparency is important to Scenic Hudson/ HFFT, how were Riverkeeper's concerns resolved to their satisfaction? Where are the 2023 plans for the Fjord Trail and will the Hudson River be undisturbed by its construction?	Stephanie Hawkins	Cold Spring
3	151	1	Services and infrastructure	How do you plan to handle situations in which visitors to the Trail behave in ways you did not anticipate - fighting, drinking, drug use, smoking, setting campfires, inappropriate disposal of rash or dog waste, having unannounced bike races during times of high pedestrian traffic, etc?	David Limburg	Village of Nelsonville
3	188	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	Where will visitors park?	Sara Yano	North Highlands
2	203	2	Increase in visitors	This attraction seems likely to be featured in guidebooks and travel blogs, and could easily become a national and international destination. Have there been studies of visitation/usage that take this into account? Could there be tens of thousands of visitors on some weekends? And, is NYS taking into account the enormous impact this would have on the area's ecology, population, and natural resources?	Eric Tipler	Cold Spring
2	9	1	Environmental impact and climate change	Is there any concern for the several types of endangered species who make their home where they are planning to clearcut to put up cement boardwalk?	Cynthia Kling	Cold Spring
2	41	1	Trail design and scale of project	I think that this project is going to drastically exceed the villages capacity for visitors. I think that one single lane road cannot handle even conservative projections of vehicular traffic. Do we have to proceed with this project in its current iteration?	Charlotte Brooks	Village of Cold Spring
2	76	1	Accountability and transparency	Assuming transparency is important to Scenic Hudson/ HFFT, where are the schedules, locations, agenda and minutes of meetings of state agencies and Scenic Hudson/HHFT? When will they be published to a central location for public access?	Stephanie Hawkins	Cold Spring

2	81	1	Accountability and transparency	Has the HHFT or its benefactors inclusive of N.Y.S Parks offered any inducements directly or indirectly to any Municipality, Department, Officials or private property owners within the physical scope of this project and if so, is New York State or its official aware of same.	Gordon Reid - Robertson	Cold Spring
2	89	1	Accountability and transparency	Under what precise circumstances would NYS Parks decide upon using their legally-assigned "dominion" over land-use issues, over the concerns or official protests from the community or the Village Board of Trustees? Please describe in detail.	Pete Samalsohn	Garrison
2	100	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	For the Breakneck Connector and Bridge, which agency approvals and permits have been obtained to date? Which agency approvals and permits are required prior to construction? Has MNR accepted the proposed design? What is the anticipated start date for construction?	David May	Cold Spring
2	105	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	The DGEIS is due to be published within the next six months. How high above the mean high tide or mean high water level will the surface of the walkway be and how high above that, and of what type, will the safety railings and fencing be for the in-water sections?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
2	164	1	Services and infrastructure	Do you intend for the Village of Cold Spring to be responsible for this trash collection?	Steven Sohn	Village of Cold Spring
2	200	1	Increase in visitors	How will creating a tourist attraction, no matter how thoughtfully designed, mitigate the impact of increasing tourism in the Hudson Highlands, and especially Cold Spring?	David Limburg	Village of Nelsonville
1	39	1	Trail design and scale of project	The trail is multi-use. Cyclists and toddlers represent just two on a spectrum with cross purposes. How will competing usage be managed? By whom and for how much?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
1	68	1	Accountability and transparency	All public-private partnerships have documentation as to each party's role in the partnership. The HHFT staff have continually stated that HHFT will manage Dockside as well as the entire trail. Where are the documents saying as much? Which state agencies have participated in negotiations?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
1	72	1	Accountability and transparency	Assuming transparency is important to Scenic Hudson/ HHFT, where are the illustrations and clear descriptions and plans depicting how the fjord trail will be built and what it will look like, including elevations and specifications? Why have they not been published yet? When will they be published to a central location for public access?	Stephanie Hawkins	Cold Spring

1	91	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	The DGEIS has been six years in the making but under SEQRA only a 30-day comment period is allowed. Will NYSOPHRP commit to extending this to 60 days, and extending the deadline for publication until accurate and meaningful data relating to traffic & visitation, especially, has been collected & submitted?	Andrew Hall	Cold Spring
1	98	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	I've been told by HHFT staff that the Breackneck connector (and the project as a whole) will have zero impact on endangered or threatened species - who made this determination, and can the study that concluded this be released to the public? It must have been done in preparation for the construction now occurring at the Breackneck trailhead.	Michael Bowman	Village of Nelsonville
1	104	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	If NYS "Threatened" Fence Lizards were to be found at Little Stony Point or in areas along the proposed trail itself, contrary to what previous research may have determined, how would that affect the construction plans?	Pete Samalsohn	Garrison
1	110	1	Data, studies, reporting and project process	Amy Kacala has said in 2022 that there had been two traffic counts done to date-1 in 2016, 1 in 2020-both on weekdays. When exactly were those counts done-dates and times? Why were weekdays chosen? Are those counts being used for the DGEIS?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
1	166	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	What is the real traffic and parking management plan for the Village of Cold Spring, for people who drive to walk the boardwalk at Dockside Park. How will it be enforced?	Judith K. Rose	Village of Cold Spring
1	172	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	The Parking/Shuttle webinar and followup report seems to make some important assumptions which would be the basis of how the Fjord's Visitation Mngt System will be effective. For example: Dan Berkowsky of Creighton Manning , used a growth factor of visitors from '21 to '28 of 35% total cumulative. NYS Parks recently did a glowing press conference touting 2022 park attendance statewide increasing over 20% in that one year. Are we really to believe this number and is this in fact the # you're using in all your parking projections ? They will come by car and from the south and they will search for open parking until they can't find it and then use the designated shuttle parking lots for a fee. What happens in-between is a nightmare if you live here	Joe Curto	Village of Cold Spring

1	176	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	Dockside and lower Main Street were impassibly flooded (except by boat) during Irene and Sandy-1st by rain, 2nd by surge. The two conditions together would devastate this village. Yet this plan to place traffic on top of existing concerns will not alleviate them. In whose interest is that?	Susan Peehl	Village of Cold Spring
1	187	1	Parking, transportation and pedestrian safety	If drivers arriving at the park find all the immediate lots and spaces full, what will be their option for visiting the fjord trail? Solely the shuttle buses? I assume illegal parking will not be tolerated? Will those shuttles stop at not only the fjord trail but also other trailheads for routes that provide eventual connection to the fjord trail? The intent of the question is to get a feel for the extent to which drivers will be encouraged to use public transportation and to which the fjord trail may indirectly promote other areas of the Highlands.	Jay Saunders	Garrison